



'We are here to grow closer to God, to share the Gospel of Christ, and to serve our community'

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WORKER/MINISTER – Part time

Job Description

Job Title:	Children & Families Worker/Minister (CFM)
Hours:	c. 20 per week, to be worked flexibly, including Sundays and evenings as required
Salary:	Up to £11,350 per annum (£21,000 per annum pro rata)
Contract:	Initially for a two-year fixed term, which we hope to extend subject to the availability of appropriate funding
Reports to:	The Team Vicar – Rev David Vannerley
Place of Work:	The District of St John the Baptist, Swalecliffe with Chestfield, within the Whitstable Team Ministry based, when appropriate, in St John's Centre
Holiday:	Equivalent to six weeks, including Sundays and inclusive of all Bank Holidays, except Good Friday, the Easter weekend and Christmas Day. It would be expected that the majority of this holiday would be taken during school holidays

About St John's

We are a small traditional church with a long history, set within a well defined established community and part of the thriving Whitstable team of churches.

We have an average Sunday attendance of 35-45 adults, now with a regular fortnightly Brunch Club for children, weekly Noisy Church for parents and toddlers, and monthly Café Church. One-off events (e.g. Christingle, Crib services, craft workshops) are well supported and we have very good links with our local Scout groups who attend regular parade services with their families in large numbers.

The post of CFM was created here in 2015 and has borne fruit beyond our expectations. The applicant will be expected to develop and build on what now exists while also being open to new opportunities to serve our local families. They will have the backing of a supportive congregation and priest, and the assistance of an established team of volunteers.

Formal qualifications are not essential, but the successful applicant would be expected to have relevant experience. Training and mentoring support available.

Main Tasks and Responsibilities

The CFM will be expected to fulfil the following tasks and responsibilities:

- To lead and coordinate our existing children's work,(Noisy church, Brunch Club, Cafe Church etc.), and our existing church all age events (e.g. harvest Quiz, New Year party etc.). You will also be the lead on behalf of St. John's with respect to wider Whitstable Team initiatives, such as holiday clubs and community wardrobe.
- To build on the above, and be proactive in seeking new ways of engaging with parents and carers, the local school, Scout group, mother and toddler groups etc., and develop our communications in this respect, using social media where appropriate.
- To co-ordinate prayer within St. John's for outreach to families, and lead intergenerational worship as appropriate.
- To undertake pastoral work with individual families where necessary.
- To nurture and develop our existing team of volunteer leaders and helpers including co-ordinating opportunities for training.
- Attend regular review meetings with the Team Vicar and Churchwardens.
- Other tasks and responsibilities as appropriate.

The post comes with an office in the St. John's Centre, so we would expect the appointee to use this where appropriate, and be visible and accessible within the district as much as possible.

An essential requirement will be to maintain knowledge of, and ensure compliance with, current relevant legislation and Diocesan policies relating to safeguarding, insurance, health & safety risk assessments.

Person Specification

The successful applicant must be confident they can fulfil the main tasks and responsibilities of the post, as outlined.

1. It is essential they demonstrate a strong Christian faith, with a passion for the gospel and outreach, be prepared and able to become a fully integrated worshipping member of the St. John's church family, and have a disciplined prayer life supported by bible study and wider Christian reading.
2. They will be expected to have experience (paid or unpaid) of children ministry and outreach work with families, and be capable of organising craft and music activities.
3. They must be able to engage with and relate to a wide range of families and individuals, and to work collaboratively with both lay and ordained people.
4. They must understand the importance of safeguarding and safe practice principles in children work, be able to maintain confidences, and be willing to attend training, mentoring, and other development opportunities as appropriate.